He Sees 100 Years Ahead

SEATTLE (AP) — In 100 years, the engines of space ships and rockets probably will be powered by the same type of energy that gives the sun its heat and light. But those engines will look like nothing we now have or imagine.

In fact, says researcher G. L. Hollingsworth, they probably will look as weird as today's jet engines would have looked 100 years ago.

As associated director of Boeing Airplane Co.'s scientific research laboratory, Hollingsworth speaks with authority. His colleagues say that he thinks about developments now that may be common knowledge next century.

"Scientists generally agree that fission or, hopefully fusion, rather than chemical energy, will propel space vehicles of the future," he explains. "And when we think about what kind of an engine will withstand the terrific heat created by fusion, we're stymied."

Fusion is the reaction that takes place during the explosion of a hydrogen bomb, and the heat it creates surpasses that of the surface of the sun—only 7,000 degrees centigrade—by 100,000 times.

Major stumbling block toward building an engine capable of withstanding such high temperature is our lack of knowledge of plasma, a problem constantly on the minds of the 20 top-notch scientists Boeing gathered for its laboratory.

Plasma has been referred to by scientists as the fourth state of matter, after solid, liquid and gas. Any element, such as gold, silver, lead or uranium, can become plasma.

But the engine is not the only concern of researchers. Rockets will reach such high speeds that the shock waves in the air might reach temperatures hotter than the sun's surface. This again will result in turning air, a gas, into plasma.

This and many other problems, still referred to by scientists as "fundamental," must be solved before man can venture safely into space.

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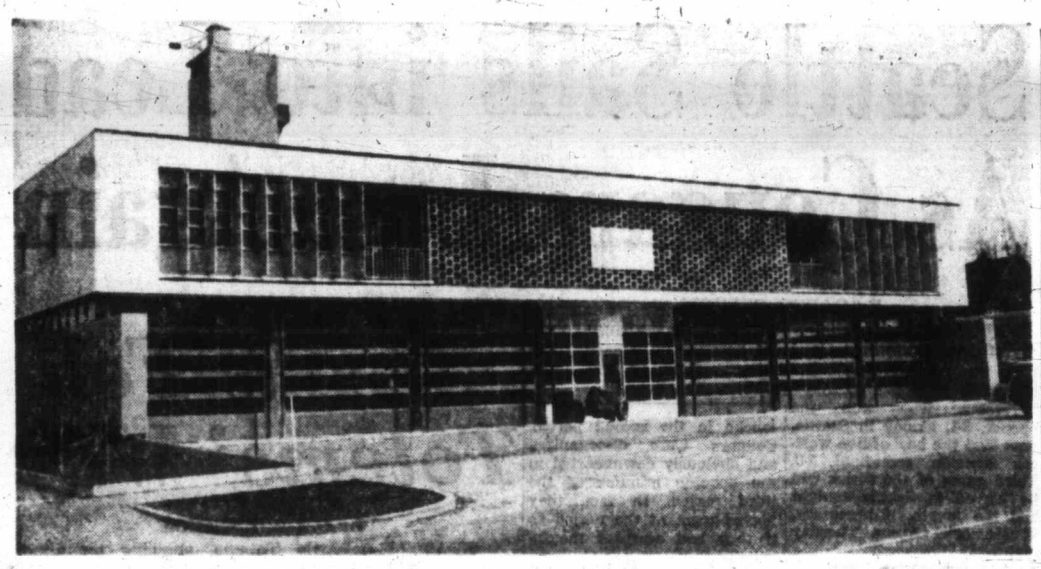

Opening Date Near for Striking New Firehall

Victoria's strikingly-designed new firehall at Camosun and Yates will be officially opened April 17 with a parade of 12 fire vehicles into the building, from the old firehall in the city market building.

Included in the procession will be an 1898 steam-powered pumper which has been kept for years in the market section of the old building on Cormorant Street.

Flying Feline Hates Mice, Loves Travel

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP)—When George Gerry took his pet cat for a plane ride, he did it for a lark. Now he's sorry because the feline took a fancy to flying and won't stay on the ground any more. While other cats go chase mice, Gerry says, Tom sneaks aboard private or commercial planes. Th eblack-and-white animal has been equipped with a collar and identification tag so that he may be shipped back from possible future outings.

If Negotiations Completed

Brentwood to Draw Durrance Water

Brentwood water district soon may be getting its water supplied from Durrance Lake, annual meeting of the organization was informed last week.

Survey of the lake system has been completed by Victoria engineer Alan Ker, and negotiations with its owners, the B.C. Electric, are well advanced, chairman V. C. Dawson told the meeting.

A timber and earth-filled dam, 12 feet high, was built at the outlet of the lake in 1913, and the water was piped to the B.C. Electric steam plant at Brentwood.

Survey conducted in 1956 by M. L. Zirul, senior hydraulic engineer of the water rights branch, gave the maximum storage capacity available for summer use as 240,000 gallons per day.

Peak consumption in Brentwood last year reached 185,000 gallons per day.

Mr. Zirul advised that the dam should be replaced or extensively repaired, that an intake structure be erected, a chlorinator installed, and the whole of the pipeline as far as Wallace Drive be replaced.

Babe Ruth League Plans Registrations

Registration for the Evening Optimist Babe Ruth League will be held at Reynolds Park April 1, 2 and 3 at 6 p.m., April 4 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and April 5 from 1 until 3 p.m.

Boys aged 13, 14 and 15 are eligible for play in the Babe Ruth Leagues.

School District 63

Trustees Refuse To Hand Out Plans

Trustees of school district 63 have refused a request from Deep Cove Ratepayers' Association for a copy of the complete plans for the projected school building program for this year.

The board agreed that costs of supplying the information would be prohibitive with general distribution running into several thousand dollars. The association was informed that the plans are available at all times for inspection at the school board office.

They will also be discussed at several public meetings which the board plans to call before the referendum is put **to the public later this year.**

Copies of the association's request were sent to all municipal councils in the school district, and to John Tisdalle, Saanich MLA.

"I think the idea's good, said Central Saanich councillor W. F. Grafton when the letter was received at a council meeting last week. "I remember the last referendum, when a group of high-pressure, fast-talking salesmen attended meetings. It's the right of the ratepayers to get as much information as they can."

The council voted to support the association's request.

Park Planting To Proceed

Saanich municipality has authorized its parks supervisor to prepare beds for planting of some $5,000 worth of donated plants in its first ornamental park.

Development of Playfair Park, which is situated in the Tattersall area east of Quadra Street, is being promoted by the Victoria Arboretum Society. The society, with donations from Island nurseries, plans to plant some 6,000 rhododendrons in the 8½-acre park within the next five years.

J. E. Underhill, an official of the society, said future plans include two or three ornamental pools and some extensive landscaping in the rocky portion of the park.

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